

**REMARKS**

This is in full and timely response to the non-final Office Action dated January 13, 2005 (Paper No./Mail Date 12/29/04). The present amendment amends claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 in order to further clarify a portion of the scope sought to be patented and is **not** amended to overcome a prior art rejection. Accordingly, claims 1 to 5 are presently pending in the application, each of which is believed to be in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration in light of the present amendment and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

**Drawings**

It is noted that the drawings as filed on July 11, 2001 are accepted. An annotated sheet and a replacement sheet are provided for Figure 6(a) to correct a typographical error in the figure title.

**Claim to Priority**

Acknowledgement of the certified formal papers filed in connection with Applicant's claim to priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) is noted with appreciation. New papers containing a corrected serial number are submitted herewith to place the claim to priority in proper standing for acceptance.

**Information Disclosure Statement**

Acknowledgment of the information disclosure statement filed October 20, 2004 is noted with appreciation. Legible copies of each foreign patent are attached to comply with 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2).

**Claim Rejections- 35 U.S.C. § 112**

In the Action, claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. However, in order to expedite prosecution, claim 4 has been amended in accordance with the examiner's instructions. Support for the new language of claim 4 can be found variously

throughout the specification including, for example, page 6, lines 2-7. Withdrawal of this rejection is therefore courteously solicited.

In the Action, claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for alleged indefiniteness. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. However, in order to expedite prosecution, claim 1 has been amended in accordance with the examiner's instructions. Withdrawal of this rejection is therefore courteously solicited.

Claim Rejections- 35 U.S.C. § 102

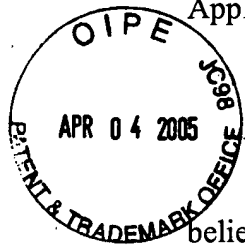
In the Action, claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,852,560 to Takeyama et al. ("Takeyama"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claims 1, 2 and 5 recite, *inter alia*, a data table containing processing yields and environmental indicator factors ***in conjunction with material codes which respectively indicate the material of each part constituting a product...calculating a discharged amount of efflux*** associated with an environmental indicator ***for every material code*** based on its corresponding processing yield and environmental indicator factor which have been obtained.

In contrast, although Takeyama arguably discloses a file storage memory containing a material input amount storage section, a material and unit load emission storage section and an environmental load equation storage section, Takeyama fails to disclose, teach or suggest *at least* a data table containing processing yields and environmental indicator factors in ***conjunction with material codes which respectively indicate the material of each part constituting a product***, and calculating a ***discharged amount of efflux associated with an environmental indicator for every material code***. In fact, although Takeyama arguably discloses inputting part names and storing the names of materials, no disclosure, teaching or suggestion is made in Takeyama of storing ***material codes respectively indicating the material of each part*** constituting the product. *See* Col. 15, lines 43-48; Col. 16 lines 41-47. Further, although Takeyama arguably discloses calculating the amount of emission of an environmental load, Takeyama fails to disclose, teach or suggest calculating the discharged amount of efflux for every material code. *See* Col. 16 lines 4-8.

Accordingly, because Takeyama fails to disclose, teach or suggest each and every limitation of claims 1,2 and 5, a *prima facie* anticipation rejection has not been established, and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested. *See, e.g., Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987) (“A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference”).

Moreover, aside from the novel limitations recited therein, claims 3 and 4, being dependent either directly or indirectly upon allowable base claim 2, are also allowable for *at least* the reasons set forth above. Withdrawal of the rejection of these claims is therefore courteously solicited.



Conclusion

For at least the foregoing reasons, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. If the examiner has any comments or suggestions that could place this application in even better form, the examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney at the below-listed number.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 18-0013, under Order No. KOM-136/INO, from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated:

*Apr. 4, 2005*

Respectfully submitted,

By

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Attachment: Annotated Sheet for Figure 6  
Replacement Sheet for Figure 6  
Foreign Patent JP11-353384  
Foreign Patent JP2000-037684

**AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS**

Please amend the drawing for Figure 6(a) as set forth in the attached annotated sheet and replacement sheet. This amendment is to correct a typographical error in the figure title.

# ANNOTATED SHEET

FIG. 6

